UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,537	09/17/2001	Manish Shah	04259P035	9811

7590	01/25/2005	

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EXAMINER
AHN, SAM K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2637	

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/955,537	SHAH ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Sam K. Ahn	2637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _2_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 September 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *17 September 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *81104,60503,30502*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-26 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, line 3, delete "said data" and insert "said plurality of data".

In claim 1, line 4, delete "state restoration" and insert "a state restoration".

In claim 2, line 3, delete "states" and insert "state".

In claim 2, line 4, delete "said data" and insert "said plurality of data".

In claim 3, line 1, delete "a memory" and insert "said one or more memory".

In claims 5 and 6, line 1, respectively, delete "states" and insert "state".

In claim 5, line 2, delete "said data streams may be" and insert "said plurality of data streams is".

In claim 7, line 1, delete "said array is a forward-tracing decode array" and insert "said one or more memory arrays are forward-tracing decode arrays".

In claim 9, line 4, "said data" and insert "said plurality of data".

In claim 10, line 3, delete "plurality," and insert "plurality of data streams".

In claim 10, line 6, delete "plurality," and insert "plurality of data streams".

In claim 10, line 8, delete "stream." and insert "stream in said plurality of data streams.".

In claim 14, line 5, delete "said data" and insert "said plurality of data".

In claim 18, lines 1-2, delete "stored thereon which defines" and insert "stored in".

In claim 18, line 4, delete "said data streams;" and insert "said plurality of data streams; and".

In claim 18, line 5, delete "state restoration" and insert "a state restoration".

In claim 19, line 3, delete "states" and insert "state".

In claim 19, line 4, delete "said data" and insert "said plurality of data".

In claim 20, line 1, delete "a memory" and insert "said one or more memory".

In claim 22, line 1, delete "states" and insert "state".

In claim 22, line 2, delete "said data streams may be" and insert "said plurality of data streams is".

In claim 23, line 1, delete "states" and insert "state".

In claim 23, line 2, delete "said data" and insert "said plurality of data".

In claim 24, line 1, delete "said array is a forward-tracing decode array" and insert "said one or more memory arrays are forward-tracing decode arrays".

In claim 25, line 2, delete "data streams" and insert "plurality of data streams".

In claim 26, line 4, delete "said data streams" and insert "said plurality of data streams".

Claims 4,6,8,11-13,15-17 and 21directly or indirectly depend on claim 1,10,14 or 18. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-26 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the claim objections set forth in this Office action.

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Present application discloses a shared decoder receiving plurality of data streams coupled to a buffer wherein a multiplexer coupled to the buffer may received the buffered data. Upon receiving a switching signal to switch from one data stream to another data stream, the decoder restores the state of the data stream. Closest prior art, Kaewell, Jr. teaches in the same field of endeavor having a decoder coupled to a ACS sequencer and a traceback memory. However, Kaewell, Jr. does not explicitly teach restoring the state of data stream while switching to a different data stream. Therefore, prior art does not teach all subject matter claimed.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

>   Satou teaches a Viterbi decoder providing an ACS operation.
>
>   Chin teaches restoration of decoder states.

6. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

>   Claim objections.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under

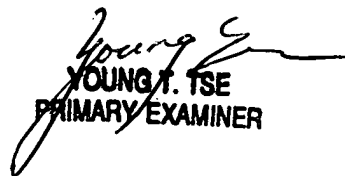*Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire

TWO MONTHS from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sam Ahn whose telephone number is (571) 272-3044. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sam K. Ahn
1/21/05

YOUNG T. TSE
PRIMARY EXAMINER